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The inspectors and the truant officers of the district must visit the establishments enumerated, see that the law is complied with and report all cases of illegal employment to the superintendent of public schools and the corporation council of the District of Columbia.

The law goes even beyond this and fixes the hours of labor for all children under sixteen, who are employed in the establishments covered by the act, at not more than eight hours in any one day or more than forty-eight hours in any one week or before the hour of six in the morning or after the hour of seven in the evening.

The commissioners of the District of Columbia are authorized to appoint two inspectors to carry out the provisions of the act.

In addition to this, other occupations common to children are given some attention. No boy under ten and no girl under sixteen is to be allowed to exercise the trade of bootblacking or the selling of newspapers on the streets unless a permit and badge have already been issued to him or her by the superintendent of schools or his agent. The permit gives the date and place of birth of the child, the name of the parent or guardian and a description of the person in question; the badge bears a number corresponding to the number of the permit on its face and on the reverse side the signature of the child in his or her own handwriting.

The above account gives the main provisions of the law as passed by congress. The law is of importance in itself, but it is of much greater importance when we consider the fact that congress may pass a national child labor law, uniform in its operation throughout the United States. The District of Columbia law may be the model.

ROBERT ARGYLL CAMPBELL.

The English Children's Bill. The English children's bill is nearing the stages when it may be expected that it will soon become a law. In spite of much opposition and some ridicule the provisions concerning "juvenile smoking" remains substantially as proposed. The bill passed its second reading in the house of lords on October 28. It came to the report stage November 12, when the lord chancellor proposed to add a clause providing that a woman convicted of the murder of her infant child might at the discretion of the court be sentenced to some punishment less than death. This proposal was carried.

STANLEY K. HORNBECK.